

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace any previous listing of the claims with the following replacement listing of the claims:

Replacement Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A non-return device according to Claim 5, wherein the tubular housing is provided with a tubular main portion and a tubular outlet portion for connection to the waste pipe, ~~the said~~the tubular outlet portion having a different diameter from the tubular main portion, the longitudinal axis of the tubular main portion and the longitudinal axis of the tubular outlet portion being mutually radially offset, so that a wall portion of the tubular main portion is radially congruous with a wall portion of the tubular outlet portion, so as to define a generally uninterrupted flow surface for discharging fluid.
2. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 1, wherein the outlet portion has a smaller diameter than the housing.
3. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 1, wherein the housing and the outlet portion are joined by an intermediate portion, which is tapered.
4. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 1, wherein the housing has a circular cross-section having a radius r_1 and the outlet portion has a circular cross-section having a radius r_2 , the two radii being radially offset by a distance R ; wherein $R = r_1 - r_2$.
5. (Currently amended) A non-return device for use between a waste outlet and a waste pipe in a plumbing system; ~~the said~~the device comprising:

a tubular housing, for connection between the waste outlet and the waste pipe;

flexible, impervious wall members disposed within ~~the said~~the housing for communication with ~~the said~~the waste outlet at a first, upstream, end of the housing, ~~the said~~the flexible, impervious wall members being of complementary shapes disposed face-to-face in surface contact, so that there is no through passage between them in a normal state and resiliently urged into ~~the said~~the normal state;

support means comprising an annular sleeve having a first part located coaxially within said housing at an axial inlet end thereof, and a second part projecting axially from said housing and comprising a radial flange, ~~the said~~the first part of said annular sleeve being arranged to hold said wall members spaced apart from one another at ~~the said~~the first end thereof to define an inlet for fluid, thereby enabling it to reach the interface of said members, whereby in-flowing fluid can force said members apart to permit flow between them from the waste outlet and to the other end of the device, whereas flow in the opposite direction is prevented by the close surface contact between the members; and

a nut for mounting the device upon the waste outlet, said nut comprising an annular recess, which recess surrounds ~~the said~~the second part of the annular sleeve and receives ~~the said~~the flange therein in such a manner as to permit axial movement thereof within ~~the said~~the recess;

wherein the arrangement is such that mounting of the nut upon the waste outlet causes axial movement of ~~the said~~the flange within ~~the said~~the annular recess, so as to compress a portion of the wall members situated in a region adjacent the inlet against ~~the said~~the support means and also compress the ~~the~~ portion of the wall members against ~~the said~~the housing and thereby effect a seal between ~~the said~~the support means and ~~the said~~the housing.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 5, wherein the annular sleeve has an end face which is adapted to abut the end of a component to which the device is to be attached, thereby experiencing an axial displacement relative to the body portion, as the body portion is axially drawn towards the component during attachment thereto.

9. (Currently amended) A non-return device according to Claim 8, wherein the end face comprises a compression seal, so as to effect a seal between the component and ~~the said~~the inlet upon mounting.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) A non-return device for use between a waste outlet and a waste pipe in a plumbing system;

~~the said~~the device comprising a tubular housing, for connection between the waste outlet and the waste pipe;

flexible, impervious wall members disposed within ~~the said~~the housing for communication with ~~the said~~the waste outlet at a first, upstream, end of the housing, ~~the said~~the flexible, impervious wall members being of complementary shapes and disposed face-to-face in surface contact so that there is no through passage between them in their normal state and resiliently urged into the normal state; and

a support that holds ~~the said~~the wall members spaced apart from one another at ~~the said~~the first end thereof to define an inlet for fluid thereby enabling it to reach the interface of said members, whereby in-flowing fluid will force said members apart to permit flow between them from the waste outlet and to the other end of the device, whereas flow in the opposite direction is prevented by the close surface contact between the members; wherein the thickness of the wall members is in the range of 0.3% to 3% of their width, ~~the said~~the width being measured in a direction transverse to the forward fluid flow direction.

12. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 11 wherein the thickness of the wall members is in the range of 0.5% to 2.5% of their width.

13. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 12, wherein the thickness of the wall members is in the range of 1% to 2% of their width.

14. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 11 wherein a radius of said tubular housing is smaller at a downstream end thereof than at said upstream end.

15. (Currently amended) A non-return device according to claim 11, wherein the tubular housing is provided with a tubular main portion and a tubular outlet portion for connection to the waste pipe, ~~the said~~the tubular outlet portion having a different diameter from the tubular main portion, the longitudinal axis of the tubular main portion and the longitudinal axis of the tubular outlet portion being mutually radially offset, so that a wall portion of the tubular main portion is radially congruous with a wall portion of the tubular outlet portion, so as to define a generally uninterrupted flow surface for discharging fluid.

16. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 15, wherein the outlet portion has a smaller diameter than the housing.

17. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 15, wherein the housing and the outlet portion are joined by an intermediate portion, which is tapered.

18. (Previously presented) A non-return device according to Claim 15, wherein the housing has a circular cross-section having a radius r_1 and the outlet portion has a circular cross-section having a radius r_2 , the two radii being radially offset by a distance R ; wherein $R = r_1 - r_2$.